

# THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

Vol. 10, No. 4

July-August, 1943

THE NEW CATALOGUE

COINS OF EGYPT

COWRIES AS MONEY

ROMAN REPUBLICAN DENARII

DATE DESIGNS OF U. S. COINS

PUBLISHED BY  
WAYTE RAYMOND, Inc.

630 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

U. S. A.

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# THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

FOUNDED BY JOHN W. SCOTT IN 1875

Published by WAYTE RAYMOND, INC.

630 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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Subscription Price, \$2.00 per Year in U.S.A. & Canada

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Vol. 10, No. 4

New York, July-August, 1943

Whole No. 90

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The new Standard Catalogue is in the works. The Wilson Press has started to print, all supplies are on hand to finish the job and we anticipate the catalogue will be ready for distribution early in September as planned. Due to the loss of part of our staff your publishers will not be able to make direct shipment of either wholesale or retail orders this year so please send your order to any well known coin dealer in the country. Wholesalers will be supplied by the various jobbers who handle our publications.

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The editor of the Standard Catalogue is most appreciative of the splendid cooperation shown by the many dealers and collectors who have helped to make the new catalogue the best ever issued. Due credit is given in the Catalogue.

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A special feature of the new Catalogue will be a department giving notes on the various series of U. S. coins. Additional notes will be published in the Journal during the coming year. If you have any knotty problems in your collecting write us about them and you may have the basis for an interesting note.

The important series of articles written by George W. Husker on the "Coins of Africa" continues this month with a compilation of the coins of Egypt. In the next Journal, Ethiopia will be the subject after which the entire series will be published in book form. Details will be forthcoming in the early Fall.

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Our coverage of world coinages will continue with other interesting features published either in the Journal or Coin Collector Series. The great interest in coins of the whole world, created by the war and general politics, makes such publications a necessity for our American collectors. Much work is in preparation.

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The offices of Wayte Raymond, Inc., will be closed to the public from June 15th to September 15th. This procedure was made necessary by work on the Standard Catalogue and the departure of our Mr. Alan W. Faxon to the U. S. Army. Our department in Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Inc., will operate as usual but don't expect too prompt answers to orders or letters as we are all working under difficulties.

# Coins of Egypt

## UNDER TURKISH RULE



### MAHMUD II [1808-1839] REFORM OF 1834

#### Gold

- 1 100 piastres. Obv. Tughra, usually with word *Just* to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr* [Cairo]. 1223 [accession date].
- 2 20 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 3 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 4 5 piastres. Similar except for value.

#### Silver

- 5 20 piastres. Obv. Tughra, usually with word *Just* to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr*. 1223.
- 6 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 7 5 piastres. Similar except for value.

- 8 1 piastre. Similar except for value.
- 9 20 paras [ $\frac{1}{2}$  piastre]. Similar except for value.

- 10 10 paras. Similar except for value.

#### Copper

- 11 5 paras. Obv. Tughra. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr*. 1223.
- 12 1 para. Similar except for value. In 1834 Mahmud II instituted the modern coinage system and began coining Egyptian money at the mint at Cairo.

# ABDUL MEJID [1839-1861]

## Gold

- 13 100 piastres. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr.* [Cairo]. 1255 [accession date].
- 14 50 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 15 5 piastres. Similar except for value.

## Silver

- 16 20 piastres. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr.* 1255.
- 17 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 18 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 19 1 piastre. Similar except for value.
- 20 20 paras [ $\frac{1}{2}$  piastre]. Similar except for value.
- 21 10 paras. Similar except for value.

## Copper

- 22 10 paras. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr.* 1255.
- 23 5 paras. Similar except for value.
- 24 1 para. Similar except for value.

## New type

- 25 5 paras. Obv. Tughra with flower to r. Value and floral ornament below. Rev. Legend like preceding with four roses in the field.

## Constantinople type

- 26 10 paras. Obv. Tughra with flower to r. Value below. Rev. Circular legend similar to preceding. In center, 10.
- 27 5 paras. Similar except for value.
- 28 1 para. Similar except for value.

# ABDUL AZIZ [1861-1876]

## Gold

500 piastre pieces were struck in small numbers for presentation purposes.

- 29 100 piastres. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr* [Cairo]. 1277 [accession date].
- 30 50 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 31 25 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 32 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 33 5 piastres. Similar except for value.

## Silver

- 34 20 piastres. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr.* 1277.
- 35 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 36 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 37  $2\frac{1}{2}$  piastres. Similar except for value.
- 38 1 piastre. Similar except for value.
- 39 20 paras [ $\frac{1}{2}$  piastre]. Similar except for value.
- 40 10 paras. Similar except for value.

## Bronze

- 41 40 paras. Obv. Tughra, with or without flower to r. Value below. Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr.* 1277.
- 42 20 paras. Similar except for value.
- 43 10 paras. Similar except for value.
- 44 4 paras. Similar except for value. Issues of bronze coinage were struck at Paris and at Brussels between the years 1866 and 1872. The remainder of the coinage was executed at Cairo.

# ABDUL HAMID [1876-1909]

## Old coinage



Mint reports indicate that small quantities of the old style coinage were struck in the early years of Abdul Hamid's reign. These issues came to an end in 1883 at which time operations at the Cairo mint ceased. Despite the closing of the mint and the transfer of coining operations to various European mints, the formula "struck at Misr" continued to appear on the Egyptian coins.

## REFORM OF 1885

### Gold

500 piastre pieces were coined in limited numbers for presentation purposes.

- 45 100 piastres. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; value below. All within a garland of flowers.  
Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr* [Cairo]. 1293 [accession date].  
All within a garland of flowers.
- 46 50 piastres. Similar except for value.

### Silver

- 47 20 piastres. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; value below; seven stars above. All within an open floral wreath.  
Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr*. 1293. All within a wreath.
- 48 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 49 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 50 2 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 51 1 piastre. Similar except for value.

### Copper nickel

- 52 1 piastre [10 ochr el guerche]. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; value below. All within a garland of flowers.  
Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr*. 1293. All within a circle of stars.
- 53 5 ochr el guerche. Obv. Similar but regnal year below tughra.  
Rev. Circular legend similar to preceding. In center, 5. Below, 1293.
- 54 2 ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.
- 55 1 ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.

### Bronze

- 56  $\frac{1}{2}$  ochr el guerche. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; regnal year below.  
Rev. *Struck at Misr*. Value. 1293.
- 57  $\frac{1}{4}$  ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.  
From 1886 until 1901 all of the Egyptian coinage was executed at Berlin with the exception of the bronze coins of 1895 which were struck at Brussels. The latter mint coined the entire issue of 1903. From 1904 until the end of the reign of Abdul Hamid all of the silver was

minted at Birmingham. Minor coinage was struck at Vienna in the years 1902, 1904, and 1905. In other years after 1905 the minor coins were struck at Birmingham.

## MUHAMMAD V [1909-1917]

### Gold

During the reign of Muhammad V no gold was struck for monetary purposes but gold coins of the larger denominations were made for ceremonial and presentation purposes.

### Silver

- 58 20 piastres. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; value below; seven stars above. All within an open floral wreath.  
Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr* [Cairo]. 1327 [accession date].  
All within a wreath.
- 59 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 60 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 61 2 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 62 1 piastre. Similar except for value.

### Copper nickel

- 63 1 piastre [10 ochr el guerche]. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; value below. All within a garland of flowers.  
Rev. Regnal year. *Struck at Misr*. 1327. All within a circle of stars.
- 64 5 ochr el guerche. Obv. Similar but regnal year below tughra.  
Rev. Circular legend similar to preceding. In center, 5. Below, 1327.
- 65 2 ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.
- 66 1 ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.

### Bronze

- 67  $\frac{1}{2}$  ochr el guerche. Obv. Tughra with flower to r.; regnal year below.  
Rev. *Struck at Misr*. Value. 1327.
- 68  $\frac{1}{4}$  ochr el guerche. Similar except for value.  
With the exception of the copper nickel coins of 1911, all of the coinage of Muhammad V was struck at Birmingham. The 1911 issue of minor coins was struck at Vienna.

As A British Protectorate

[1914-1922]

SULTAN HUSSEIN KAMIL			
{1914-1917}			
Gold			
69	100 piastres. Obv. Within wreath, <i>Sultan Hussein Kamil</i> . 1333. Rev. Within wreath, <i>Sultanate of Egypt</i> ; value in Arabic and English. Below, Christian and Muhammadan dates.	76	2 milliemes. Obv. Above, <i>Hussein Kamil</i> ; below, <i>Sultan of Egypt</i> . 1333. Hole divides Muhammadan date of issue. Rev. MILLIEMES in English and Arabic. Christian date below. Numeral of value to l. and r.
Silver		77	1 millieme. Similar except for value.
70	20 piastres. Obv. Within wreath, <i>Sultan Hussein Kamil</i> . 1333. Rev. Within wreath, <i>Sultanate of Egypt</i> ; value in Arabic and English. Below, Christian and Muhammadan dates.	Bronze	
71	10 piastres. Similar except for value.	78	$\frac{1}{2}$ millieme. Obv. <i>Sultan Hussein Kamil</i> . 1333. Rev. <i>Sultanate of Egypt</i> . Value in English and Arabic. Christian and Muhammadan dates at bottom.
72	5 piastres. Similar except for value.	SULTAN FUAD [1917-1922]	
73	2 piastres. Similar except for value.	Silver	
Copper nickel—holed		79	10 piastres. Obv. <i>Sultan Fuad</i> . 1335. Rev. <i>Sultanate of Egypt</i> ; value in English and Arabic. Christian and Muhammadan dates below.
74	10 milliemes. Obv. Above, <i>Hussein Kamil</i> ; below, <i>Sultan of Egypt</i> . 1333. Christian and Muhammadan dates to l. and r. Rev. Value in Arabic above; same in English below. Numerals of value to l. and r.	80	5 piastres. Similar except for value.
75	5 milliemes. Similar except for value.	81	2 piastres. Similar except for value. The coinage of the Protectorate is the only Egyptian coinage on which English legends and values appear. This coinage was struck at Birmingham [mint mark—H], at King's Norton [mint mark—KN], and at the Indian mints at Bombay and Calcutta [no mint marks].

As An Independent Kingdom

[1922 .....]

KING FUAD I [1922-1936]			
FIRST ISSUE			
Gold			
82	500 piastres. Obv. <i>Fuad I King of Egypt</i> . Bust, r. Rev. Outer circle, 500 piastres—1340-1922, separated by groups of stars. In center, <i>Kingdom of Egypt</i> .	84	50 piastres. Similar but no groups of stars on rev.
83	100 piastres. Similar except for value.	85	20 piastres. Similar except for value.
		Silver	
		86	20 piastres. Obv. <i>Fuad I King of Egypt</i> . Bust, r. Rev. Outer circle, 20 piastres—1923-1941. In center, <i>Kingdom of Egypt</i> .
		87	10 piastres. Similar except for value.
		88	5 piastres. Similar except for value.
		89	2 piastres. Similar except for value.



1,2,3~

TYPE OF COINAGE AS SULTAN.

8,9,10,11~ TYPES OF FIRST SILVER  
COINS OF FUAD AS KING.

12~TYPE OF SECOND ISSUE.

4,5,6,7~

TYPES OF GOLD COINS 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> ISSUES.

13,14,15,16~ TYPES OF NICKEL  
AND COPPER COINS.

Copper nickel

- 90 10 milliems. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, r.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center, 10. Christian and Muhammadan dates to l. and r.
- 91 5 milliemes. Similar except for value.
- 92 2 milliemes. Similar except for value.

Bronze

- 93 1 millieme. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, r.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center, 1. Muhammadan and Christian dates above and below.
- 94  $\frac{1}{2}$  millieme. Similar except for value and both dates above value. All of the gold coins were struck at the Royal Mint in England, the first issues being dated 1922-1940. Silver was struck at the Royal Mint in 1923 and at Birmingham in other years. The minor coins were executed by the same mints.

SECOND ISSUE

Gold

- 95 500 piastres. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, l.  
Rev. Outer circle, 500 piastres—1948-1929, separated by groups of stars. In center, *Kingdom of Egypt*.
- 96 100 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 97 50 piastres. Similar but no groups of stars on rev.
- 98 20 piastres. Similar except for value.

Silver

- 99 20 piastres. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, l.  
Rev. Outer circle, 20 piastres—1929-1948. In center, *Kingdom of Egypt*.
- 100 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 101 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 102 2 piastres. Similar except for value.

Copper nickel

- 103 10 milliemes. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, l.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center, 10. Christian and Muhammadan dates to l. and r.
- 104 5 milliemes. Similar except for value.
- 105 2 milliemes. Similar except for value.
- 106  $2\frac{1}{2}$  milliemes [octagonal planchet]. Similar.

Bronze

- 107 1 millieme. Obv. *Fuad I King of Egypt*. Bust, l.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center l. Muhammadan and Christian dates above and below.
- 108  $\frac{1}{2}$  millieme. Similar except for value.  
The new type coinage was first dated 1929-1948. All of the gold was struck at the Royal Mint. The silver and minor coinages of 1930 were executed at Budapest [mint mark —BP]. Other issues were struck at Birmingham, King's Norton, and the Royal Mint.

FAROUK I [1937 .....]

Gold

- 109 500 piastres. Obv. *Farouk I King of Egypt*. Facing bust, head l.  
Rev. *Kingdom of Egypt*. Christian and Muhammadan dates. Value at top. All within floral design.
- 110 100 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 111 50 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 112 20 piastres. Similar except for value.

Silver

- 113 20 piastres. Obv. *Farouk I King of Egypt*. Facing bust, head l.  
Rev. *Kingdom of Egypt*. Christian and Muhammadan dates. Value at top. All within floral design.



Bronze

- 120 1 millieme. Obv. *Farouk I King of Egypt*. Facing bust, head l.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center, l. Christian and Muhammadan dates.
- 121 1/2 millieme. Similar except for value.  
The coinage of Farouk began in 1937.

- 114 10 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 115 5 piastres. Similar except for value.
- 116 2 piastres. Similar except for value.

Copper nickel

- 117 10 milliemes. Obv. *Farouk I King of Egypt*. Facing bust, head l.  
Rev. Circular legend, *Kingdom of Egypt*. In center, 10. Christian and Muhammadan dates to l. and r.
- 118 5 milliemes. Similar except for value.
- 119 2 milliemes. Similar except for value.

KEY TO ILLUSTRATIONS ON PLATE

Plate number = List number

1	=	79	Obv.
2	=	80	Rev.
3	=	81	Obv.
4	=	83	Rev.
5	=	84	Obv.
6	=	85	Rev.
7	=	96	Obv.
8	=	86	Obv.
9	=	87	Rev.
10	=	88	Obv.
11	=	89	Rev.
12	=	99	Obv.
13	=	91	Rev.
14	=	106	Obv.
15	=	106	Rev.
16	=	93	Rev.

Domestic Coinage Executed, By Mints, During  
The Month of May, 1943

Denomination	Philadelphia	San Francisco	Denver
SILVER			
Half dollars .....	\$3,099,000.00	\$ 415,000.00	\$2,455,200.00
Quarter dollars .....	2,985,000.00	818,000.00	.....
Dimes .....	1,614,000.00	1,215,000.00	.....
MINOR			
Five-cent pieces .....	1,354,600.00	225,500.00	.....
One-cent pieces .....	306,180.00	112,500.00	102,200.00

## COWRIES AS MONEY

By H. F. BOWKER

An extremely interesting and informative article entitled "*The use of cowries as money during the Shang and Chou periods*," by Harry E. Gibson, Honorary Keeper of Archeology in the Shanghai Museum, R. A. S., was published in the 1940 *Journal of the North Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*. This, as well as the several other articles on cognate studies which were published previously in the *Journal* and in the *China Journal*, is based principally on his studies of the epigraphy of the ancient oracle bones and tortoise shells from Anyang, the site of the ruins of the ancient capital city of Yin of the Shang dynasty, hence it is presented from the viewpoint of the archeologist and philologist and the published findings of numismatists in the same field have been entirely neglected, in fact it would seem that they are entirely unknown to the author.

It is apparent that Shanghai museums and private collections do not have well-rounded representations of ancient money cowries and their several varieties of imitations. Gibson concludes that the latter were artifacts for purely ornamental purposes and were not used for money, as he states "If the imitations had been intended for use as money one hole would have sufficed." It might interest him to know that many of the imitation cowries of bone similar to those shown in his Plate C, Figure 4, which are in American collections, have only one hole. Sometimes this single hole is found near one end of the specimens but more commonly it is near the center. The Ramsden collection, now in the Museum of the American Numismatic Society of New York, has a number of these and examples of the various varieties from this collection were illustrated in a color plate in the January 1914 issue of the *Numismatic and Phi-*

*lateic Journal of Japan*, one of which is the single-holed variety. It is accordingly submitted that Mr. Gibson has not made out a case for his conclusion, which appears to have been based upon insufficient evidence.

It is difficult to understand why Gibson believes that the presence of two holes indicates a different usage than if only one is present. Professor Nitobe in his essay on "*The evolution of the cowrie currency*" which was published in the memorial volume dedicated to Kenzo Wadagaki in 1914 on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as professor in the Imperial University at Tokyo, has given drawings of how cowries were strung with either one or two holes, which appear to be equally applicable to natural or imitation cowries. He also gives a series of primitive characters showing the evolution of the written character for cowries, *pei*, which is much more comprehensive than Gibson's series, and which indicate that the development of the character was from a pictograph of two cowries with single holes bored through their middles for stringing. The indication of these holes still persists in the two middle horizontal lines in the upper part of the modern Chinese character, despite the fact that there is no longer any direct representation of the pair of cowries other than is indicated by the two lower strokes.

While Mr. Gibson offers an ingenious explanation of the moot question of the number of cowries which comprised a *h'eng*, here also he has failed to note or has ignored the published findings of other investigators. He gives an interesting drawing of his idea of how a *h'eng* of cowries was assembled and concludes that twenty shells comprised that unit. Without wishing to question this statement it is suggested that the possibility exists that a *p'eng* was not always so

small a number of cowries. On page 365 of Dr. L. Wieger's "*Chinese Characters, their origin, etymology, history, classification and signification*," second edition, 1927, the following statement is given accompanied by the figures [which are reproduced herewith]:

"The cowries, current money of old China, are offered strung up, often in great quantities, as much as a man can carry with a pole. In some texts, the strings of cowries are figured in a compendious conventional form."

Elsewhere in the same volume it is stated that these "*Graphies*" are facsimilies of specimens of Chinese writing, cast, not engraved, upon bronze bells and vases. Wieger did not have available the oracle bones which are available to later investigators, but there seems to be no reason why his findings should be ignored. This seems to be the case in the present instance, as Gibson quotes from what appears to be another edition of the above-mentioned reference in his footnote 5, which is presumed to refer to the inscription and translation into modern Chinese characters which is reproduced as Plate VII. This figure is not found in the second edition, altho a similar one with another inscription containing the same characters is given as "five man-loads of cowries" where Gibson translates the same characters as "five pair strings of cowries." Who can say from the evidence presented to substantiate these conclusions that one is right and the other wrong? It is believed that both may be right and that the different conclusions arrived at by these authorities regarding the number of cowries comprising a *p'eng* may be due merely to changes in the unit of value. Nothing was more fluid than the units of weight, measure, and value in ancient China, which were susceptible to change by the mere whim of any of the many petty kings, dukes, and prime ministers of the period. It is only very recently that the exact modern equivalent of the measures of length

in use at the time of the Han dynasty, A.D. 9, has been determined, and I am of the opinion that the number of cowries in the *p'eng* has not yet been determined, altho both Wieger and Gibson may have settled it, inductively, for the particular time and use of which they treat. Only a short time ago, but prior to the publication of Gibson's article, Roswell A. Britton who is also an eminent student of the characters appearing on the oracle bones, verbally communicated to me his opinion that the value of the *p'eng* and the number of cowries comprising it at any period had yet to be determined. Suffice to point out that Gibson's conclusion that twenty cowries comprised a *p'eng* seems to be purely a surmise based on data of one period only and entirely ignores what appears to be the earlier meaning of the same term. It seems more than likely that the meaning of the characters he has given in his Plate V is that a *p'eng* consisted of all the cowries that a man could lift with one hand, and consequently all he could conveniently carry on a pole by dividing the load into two equal parts as is customary, than that it should be some such nominal number as twenty, as contended by Gibson.

The written characters developed in the interior of China at least a thousand miles from the probable original source of the cowrie shells used and at a time when they most likely were transported into the interior on foot via heavily guarded caravans. These were probably a monopoly of the reigning monarch or his favorite minister, and the unit of the size of the shipments would have been expressed in terms of the number of bearers, as one would compute the size of a modern desert caravan in terms of the number of camels composing it rather than in terms of the number of pieces of cotton goods that they might be carrying.

Gibson states that there is no indication whatsoever that cowries were ever used by the Chinese, as in many

other countries, as fecundity symbols or aphrodite tokens. This seems rather a broad statement in view of at least one of the early "*Graphies*", that from which the modern character *pao* derived, and which appears on almost every cash-type Chinese coin. All authorities seem to agree that it was derived from an early pictograph which represented, at first, jade and cowries in a box, and later, to which was added a character representing a pottery vessel called *tao* used for ancestral sacrifices, which were presented to the manes as valuable treasures during the ceremony

of ancestor worship. It would seem reasonable that the very presence of such an object as the cowrie here among the several symbolic gifts to the manes originally had a fecundity significance, when one takes into consideration the almost universal acceptance among primitive peoples of the cowrie in this category, and also remembers that the greatest significance of such a ceremony itself is the desire on the part of the celebrant that he himself may appear in the part of an ancestor at some future time, which necessitates the continuance of his line by means of sons and grandsons.

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## FROM THE REPORT OF THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

**FIJI CURRENCY.** At the end of 1940 the currency of Fiji was in special notes for £1, 10s. and 5s., and coins [silver 2s., 1s.6d., and nickel pennies and half-pennies] but the establishment of troops there created an unprecedented demand for coins, resulting in the rationing of coins and the use of postage stamps for small change. In June, 1942, the Government issued 1s. and 2s. notes [legal tender to £2] and in the following month it was stated that in certain sugar districts a premium of 3s. in the £ was still offered for pennies ["Pacific Islands Monthly," August, 1942]. Later, traders and hotel-keepers issued paper and cardboard penny tokens which circulated extensively. To correct the position, the Government issued a penny note which bears the replica of the nickel Fiji penny.

**JAPANESE INVASION CURRENCY.** The Hon. Secretary tabled press extracts [Press Sep. 22, 1942 and Post, Sep. 24, 1942] indicating that a large number of bank-notes, printed in Japan, had been seized in the South west Pacific area, and that these notes

[£1, 10s., 1s., and 6d.] were printed in English with the words, "Japanese Government" top centre, and a small panel of Japanese printing at bottom centre. The sizes of the £1 and 10s. notes are similar to those of New Zealand. The 10s. is brown in colour and the £1 bright green. The Sydney message reporting the matter stated that "the indications were that the notes were intended for use either in Australia or New Zealand." Japanese currency notes taken from Japanese soldiers [10 yen and 50 sen] were exhibited by Mr. M. Hornblow, who stated that he had been informed that Japanese in the Coral Sea battle were found to possess currency notes printed in English, including, on one series, "Payable in New Zealand," and on another, "Payable in Australia."

**AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COINS.** The small "s" on the reverse of the 1942 Australian shilling and sixpence is stated to indicate that the coins were minted in San Francisco, U.S.A. New Zealand coins are now being minted in Australia.

# Roman Republican Denarii

By R. W. JOHNSON

Part Eleven

## PORTRAITURE

The Roman Republican sculptor and die-engraver received his inspiration from 3 main sources:—the Etruscan School [devoted to realism]; Hellenistic art, which combined naturalistic portraiture with idealism, and, the earlier classic Greek tendency to create the perfect human head, even at the expense of fidelity to the subject. Fortunately for us who are more concerned about securing a speaking likeness of the Roman statesman than merely looking at a pretty picture, the 2 former "schools of art" prevailed—at least in the first century B.C. when all our republican portrait coins were struck. Some heads are even brutally frank.

As regards the authenticity of these portraits, it will first be necessary to determine their origins. The entire period of the early Roman kings; Romulus, Numa Pompilius, Ancus Marcius etc. is semi-mythical or at least legendary, so that there could be no statuary busts for the die-engraver to copy—hence all portraits of this age are imaginary.

The first actual likenesses of historic Romans of the early Republic were probably reproduced from the wax "imagines" or death masks of consuls or senators, retained in the "ancestral cabinets" of patrician homes, and of which their descendants were very proud. Heads of Servius Sulpicius Rufus and M. Claudius Marcellus might well come in this category. In addition there existed innumerable marble and bronze busts of deceased Roman statesmen from which the die-engraver could, and undoubtedly did, draw freely to secure

authentic likenesses. The last stage—contemporary portraits of living historical personages—begins with Julius Caesar.

Strange though it may seem [since we are dealing with republican times] the first portrait coin to be struck [99-94 B.C.] shows a non-Roman, in fact a foreign king, Philip V of Macedon; and the last, a Roman emperor-to-be, Octavius, later Augustus. We will see these, and other famous personages, as they appear on the scene chronologically; rather than in order of their date of issue. All are obverse types from the mint of Rome, unless otherwise specified.

We begin our series with a portrait of Romulus, or Quirinus, as he was sometimes called [see fig. 1]. He is shown wearing a beard curled in the Etruscan or archaic Greek style on a piece of Caius Memmius struck in 51 B.C. A finely executed head of Tatius, king of the Sabines and a contemporary of Romulus; who finally amalgamated his people with the Romans, is illustrated on the coinage of T. Vettius Sabinus [72 B.C. — fig. 2]. Cruder portraits of Tatius are also to be found on the denarii of L. Tituri, l.f. Sabin. They agree in certain respects with the head shown in fig 2.

The second Roman king, Numa Pompilius [fig. 3], wears the jewelled regal diadem on a coin of Cn. Calpurnius Piso [Spain—49 B.C.]; and the beardless Ancus Marcius, 4th king of Rome [640-616 B.C.], the plain Greek fillet [Lucius Marcius Philippus—56 B.C.—fig. 4]. The jugate heads of these



two kings appears on a piece of Carus Marcius Censorinus [87 B.C.—fig. 5], although the resemblance to figures 3 and 4 are only faintly traceable.

There is one more republican portrait which is almost certainly imaginary, that of the Vestal Virgin Aemilia on the coinage of M. Aemilius Lepidus [65 B.C.—fig. 6]. She is a semi-legendary member of the Aemilia gens who was said to have thrown her most beautiful robes on the embers of the sacred fire of Vesta, which the goddess then miraculously rekindled.

Whether or not the likenesses of Brutus and Ahala [figs. 7 and 8] may be considered real or imaginary, they are important to us in their typical delineation of the features of the stern old puritans who made Rome the great commonwealth that it was. L. Junius Brutus expelled the tyrannical Tarquins and became the first Roman consul, 509 B.C. Caius Servilius Ahala was noted as the slayer of Spurius Maelius [439 B.C.] when he refused to appear before the dictator, Cincinnatus. The heads of these two men are taken from the obverse and reverse respectively, of a coin of Brutus, slayer of Caesar. Issued in 59 B.C., it stresses the republican ideas of Brutus.

Our next piece [fig 9], showing the head of L. Domitius Ahenobarbus, may possibly be drawn from some authentic source although this is not likely at such an early date [496 B.C.]. If it is a genuine portrait it is an extremely poor one. He is said to have received his nickname Ahenobarbus or "red beard" from a miraculous incident of the battle of Lake Regillus. This coin was struck in the East [42-41 B.C.] by Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus to commemorate the legend concerning the founder of his gens or family.

It is not unlikely that the head of the tribune Servius Sulpicius Rufus [fig. 10] was copied from an "imagine" or statuary bust; although the latter must have been extremely scarce in the early 4th century. When holding the office of

military tribune he came to the relief of the city of Tusculum [374 B.C.]; as his namesake, L. Servius Rufus, records on his denarius of 42 B.C.

The consul M. Claudius Marcellus, whose features we see in figure 11, lived in the late 3rd century when Roman portraiture must have been well developed. Whether his portrait is derived from an "imagine" or statue is impossible to say; but at least, dating from this historical era, all heads now appearing on republican denarii must be considered as traceable to some authentic source. Marcellus was elected consul 5 times and is noted for his capture of Syracuse in 212 B.C. The reverse of our coin is illustrated and described in Part VIII—No. 4.

The head of King Philip V of Macedon [fig. 12] seems out of place on a Roman denarius. But he was an ally of Rome and a personal friend of the Marcian family [a member of that gens striking this coin], which perhaps accounts for the apparent anomaly. He is shown wearing the royal Macedonian helmet. The coin was minted in Italy 99-94 B.C. by L. Marcius Philippus.

One of the most famous Romans was Scipio Africanus [fig. 13], conqueror of Hannibal at the decisive battle of Zama in 202 B.C. The crested helmet is particularly appropriate for so great a general. Cn. Blasio is to be credited with bequeathing us this fine head on his coinage of Italy [91 B.C.].

By way of contrast we have the portrait of a man comparatively unknown to historians, but evidently highly esteemed by his descendants—C. Numonius Vaala [fig. 14]. He was probably the founder of the gens, his agnomen Vaala being derived from the word "vallum" [palisades or ramparts]. The reverse of this coin shows him storming an enemy entrenchment. It was issued by a moneyer of the same name in 40 B.C.

The youthful rather full-faced head [fig. 15] illustrated on the denarii of F. Cornelius Sulla [62 B.C.] has been

described as that of the Numidian king Jugurtha. But Grueber believes — by comparison with Numidian portrait coins — that it is more likely intended to represent the African god "Hercules Callinicus", to whom Sulla offered 10% of his wealth in gratitude for victories granted to him.

We now come to a group of coins portraying the fathers and grand-fathers of the moneyers — hence probably excellent likenesses. The first [fig. 16] displays the head of Aulus Postumius Albinus, consul of 99 B.C. It was struck by his adoptive son Decimus Post. Albinus Brutus [one of the assassins of Caesar] in 49 B.C. Caius Coelius Caldus [consul], who is noted for the passage of the "Lex Tabellaria" when tribune in 107 B.C., is honored by the very life-like portrait coin [fig. 17] of his grandson and namesake in 61 B.C. Following him we have the double-headed piece [figures 18 and 19] showing the aristocrat and consul Quintus Pompeius Rufus; and, the celebrated dictator L. Cornelius Sulla, minted by their grandson Q. Pompeius Rufus in 57 B.C. These 2 men shared the consulship in 88 B.C. Antius Restio, tribune and plebeian, passed sumptuary laws [in 74 B. C.] limiting the cost of banquets. They proved so irritating to the luxurious aristocracy of those days that he was compelled to flee to Lavinium. His son, C. Antius Restio, struck this rather uncomplimentary portrait coin [fig. 20] in 46 B.C. We have already heard something about the praetor Quintus Arrius in connection with the slave revolt of Spartacus — see Part IX — fig. 44. Our illustration [fig. 21] is taken from the obverse of that piece.

Pompey the Great is too illustrious a Roman to require further comment here. His finest posthumous portraits appear on the issues of Cnaeus Pompey and M. Minatius Sabinus [Spain—46 B.C.]; of Sextus Pompey [Sicily 42-36 B.C.—fig. 22] and of Q. Nasidius, also from Sicily, minted in the same period [fig.

23]. The praetor Lucius Regulus, who served under Caesar in the African War [46 B.C.] and claimed Cicero as a friend, was also a contemporary of Pompey the Great. He is known to us by the large and small heads [figs. 24 and 25] on the coinage of his son, L. Livineius Regulus [39 B.C.].

No series of republican portrait coins would be complete without a denarius depicting the fierce Gallic chieftain Vercingetorix [fig. 26], mortal foe of Julius Caesar. L. Hostilius Saserna, quite obviously, places the head of the gallant Gaul on his coinage in commemoration of Caesar's victory at Alesia, 4 years earlier.

Julius Caesar, as we have already said, was the first "living" Roman statesman to be honored by having his portrait placed on the civic coinage during his life-time. Many were struck in 44 B.C. before his assassination, and also posthumously. Numerous as they were we could hardly expect uniformity in portraiture—some are excellent, others mediocre. Among the best and most authentic; those which agree in the greatest respect with his known portrait busts are illustrated in figs. 27-36. The first five were minted in 44 B.C., and the remainder after his death. Figures 27 and 28 are reproduced from the coinage of M. Mettius; 29 from that of L. Aemilius Buca, and, 30 & 31 of L. Sepullius Macer. Four of these show Caesar wearing an honorary wreath. He is said to have been quite sensitive about his baldness and the wreath helped to cover this up. The veiled head [fig. 31] refers to Caesar's priestly office of Pontifex Maximus. Posthumous issues vary as much in the delineation of Caesar's features as do those issued before his assassination and seem to have been copied from portrait busts made at different stages of his political career. Figure 32 is from a piece of L. Flaminius Chilo [43 B.C.]; fig. 33 was struck by L. Mussidius Longus [39 B.C.]; fig. 34 by L. Livineius Regulus [39 B.C.]; figs.

35 and 36 by Q. Voconius Vitulus and Ti. Sempronius Gracchus, both the latter pieces being minted as late as 37 B.C.

We naturally think of Brutus in connection with Julius Caesar. His head is so carefully engraved on the denarii of L. Plaetorius Cestianus [fig. 37] that we are safe in calling it characteristic. The "Ides of March" reverse of this coin was described in Part X—No. 26. Three years later we have a piece [fig. 38] displaying the head of the traitor Labienus; struck by him in the East [see also Part X—No. 38].

Our first authentic portrait of Mark Anthony is the veiled head illustrated in the historical section [Part X—No. 27]. A somewhat similar bearded profile appears on the Eastern coinage of this great Roman statesman in 42 B.C. [fig. 39]. He is however generally shown clean-shaven, as in figs. 40 and 41. Both of these portraits are so typical that it will be unnecessary to give further examples as we did in the case of Julius Caesar. Figure 40 forms the obverse of Part X—No. 37; and fig. 41, the obverse of a double-headed coin, the reverse of which [fig. 42], displays the profile of the youthful Octavian. Double-headed portrait coins were quite popular with the moneyers of this period and many had historical implications; in this instance [from the East—41 B.C.], perhaps referring to a reconciliation between Anthony and Octavian. A similar two-headed piece issued by M. Anthony, M. Nerva and L. Antonius in the East [41 B.C.] shows Mark Anthony on the obverse and Lucius Antonius, his brother, on the reverse [fig. 43].

A word about the dual portrait coin of Anthony and Cleopatra [Part X—figs. 42 and 43] may not be out of place at this point. It will be seen immediately that her features are merely a feminized version of those of Mark Anthony, and no doubt so made to flatter him. In no sense is this to be regarded as a true portrait of the great queen. Although Cleopatra was the ruler of Egypt, not a drop of Egyptian

blood ran in her veins. The Ptolemies, to which family she belonged, were of Macedonian-Greek stock; as were the Seleucids [of the royal Syrian dynasty] with whom the Ptolemies freely intermarried. From the few busts of Cleopatra that can be authenticated we see an intelligent but not beautiful or even handsome woman, with an oval face, fair-sized and slightly curved nose and a small chin. She was a cultured cosmopolitan Alexandrian with a fascinating personality and brilliant intellect—an ambitious queen scheming to retain her throne, rather than a voluptuary. Only a woman of this type could have wielded so powerful an influence over sophisticated men of the world like Caesar and Mark Anthony. The best likenesses of Cleopatra on ancient coins are to be found on the tetradrachms of Ascalon and on well preserved Ptolemaic bronzes.

It is unfortunate that Marcus Aemilius Lepidus, third member of the 2nd triumvirate, appears so seldom on republican denarii. Our example [fig. 44] is taken from his joint issue with Octavian [Africa 40-37 B.C.]. To obtain a better likeness of this rather impotent triumvir we are forced to turn to the gold coinage.

Finally, we consider the question of the portraiture of Octavius, last of the great republican statesmen. We have already seen him as the somewhat youthful rising politician in figure 42. A similar head of Octavian [fig. 45], struck by him just prior to the decisive battle of Naulochus, also shows a slight beard, and is probably the better likeness of the two. On the innumerable portrait coins of Octavian minted after this date [36 B.C.], he always appears clean-shaven. Among the best of these we might cite the typical head [fig. 46] from the "Caesar Divi F" group [36-29 B.C.], likewise issued by Octavian to commemorate the battle of Naulochus. The splendid laureate bust [fig. 47] is unusual in style, and one of the best conceived of his portrait coins. It be-

longs to the "Imp. Caesar" group [29-27 B.C.] and portrays Octavian in an aspect of Jupiter Terminalis—as guardian of Roman provinces and state boundaries. The more mature head of Octavius as "Caesar Augustus" [fig. 48—M. Durmius—14 B.C.], or simply Augustus, as he was now called, marks the end of the Roman Republic and the beginning of the Empire.

The author has endeavored to compress as much information on the development and historical significance of the Roman republican denarius as possible into the necessarily limited space available. Obviously the early period [before 100 B.C.] must appear in outline form only, and some minor omissions of text and illustration were also unavoidable after that date. However the real intention of the author was to arouse the interest of the coin collector to a field of ancient numismatics which has been sadly neglected in America, and to furnish him with a handy condensed manual for his guidance. For those who may wish to pursue this fascinating hobby further, and I hope there are many who will, I have appended a list of the foremost works on the subject:—

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"British Museum Catalogue of Roman Republican Coins"—3 vols.—by H. A. Grueber. Although properly

called a catalogue, it is nevertheless considered the standard reference work on Republican denarii. It is particularly valuable for its prefacing material, introduction to each section, historical footnotes and thorough indexing [many plates].

"Description historique et chronologique des monnaies de la Republique romaine"—2 vols.—by E. Babelon. An alphabetically arranged illustrated listing of the coinage of republican moneyers by "gens", with descriptive text in French.

"A Dictionary of Roman Coins"—by S. W. Stevenson—compiled about the middle of the last century. Much of the data in this work has been superseded as the result of later research, but it still contains valuable information.

"Roman Coins"—by Harold Mattingly [for the collector's library]. A readily obtainable handbook treating the coinage of the Roman Empire, as well as that of the Republic [well illustrated].

"The Haecherlin Collection"—A splendidly illustrated catalogue of the sale of one of the finest private collections of Roman Republican denarii ever to be assembled. Out of print and almost unobtainable at present.

THE END.

Domestic Coinage Executed, By Mints, During  
The Month of April, 1943

Denomination	Philadelphia	San Francisco	Denver
SILVER			
Half dollars .....	\$2,908,000.00	\$1,375,000.00	\$775,000.00
Quarter dollars .....	2,551,000.00	667,000.00	.....
Dimes .....	1,458,000.00	548,000.00	.....
MINOR			
Five-cent pieces .....	1,222,000.00	564,000.00	.....
One-cent pieces .....	146,600.00	49,100.00	171,600.00

# Date Designs of United States Coins

By JOSEPH H. SPRAY

It must have become apparent to collectors of United States coins that the dates thereon prior to 1900 have been drawn not to conform with the general design of the coin but as a separate entity. The further we go back into American coinage history, the more erratic was the date design and the less its conformity with the design of the coins on which it was placed.

It has only been since 1907 and 1908 when new designs of the gold pieces were made that the date was designed as an integral part of the general make-up of the coin. This becomes at once apparent with the advent of the Lincoln cent, the Buffalo nickel, the Peace dollar and the Washington quarter.

To illustrate this point, we will take up the various decades from the nineteenth century and follow through to date. For instance, we will take the decade 1850-1859 inclusive.

With the exception of the small cents, all the dates in the decade of the fifties were straight across, i.e. they were not curved with the edge of the coin.

Unless otherwise noted, the date style and relative size of each year is uniform on all denominations. The only change in size being necessitated by the size of the coin.

## 1850

The date 1850 was of the large style and the five was slightly italicized. It was not in very high relief and was more or less skeletonized.

## 1851

The date 1851 still retained the slightly italicized five and the style of the previous year.

## 1852

The year 1852 conformed in general to that of 1851. The five had a slight slant and the figure 2 a characteristic twist to its tail.

## 1853

In 1853 the five was italicized and the date was quite large, and in the case of the half cent especially so, all other dates on the half cents in this decade being smaller.

The date 1853 appears with and without arrows at its side, on the half dime, dime, quarter and half dollar. Such coins without the arrows are rare, those of the quarter and half dollar being especially so.

The arrows were placed on these coins to denote the smaller silver content being used on subsidiary silver from 1853 on.

## 1854

The date of the year 1854 was particularly prominent in that it was the largest of any date of the fifties and was very uniform as to style and also to relative size on all denominations with the exception of the half cent. The five in this date was sharply italicized, the figures slender, tall, not in very high relief and completely filled the space between the base of Liberty and the edge of the coin.

All half dimes, dimes, quarters and half dollars contain arrows at the date.

## 1855

The date 1855 continued to be large but not as large as 1854. Both fives were sharply italicized on all denominations with the exception of the cent in which we find both straight fives and italicized fives.

The arrows appeared on all of the same coins as in 1854.

### 1856

In the year 1856, the arrows disappear and we find a small date and a large date, the smaller date having the italicized five and the larger the straight five. This latter date, however, not being as large as 1855.

It is interesting to note that the slanting five and straight five appear on various denominations, some having both styles and others only one.

As far as we can ascertain, the cents, dimes and gold dollars contain both styles of this date. The three cents, dimes of "S" and "O" mints, appearing only with the italicized five. All other denominations appear to have only the straight five. However, this matter is being studied still further.

### 1857

The year 1857 appears to have a medium date with a straight five, quite uniform on all denominations.

However, on the large cents the year 1857 appears both as a large and small

date without any change in the characteristics of the date type.

In the case of the small cent the date is slightly curved.

### 1858

The year 1858 again has a large date, the second largest for the decade, the eight of which appears to be dropped slightly below the line on all denominations with the exception of the gold dollar. This date is quite characteristic and its uniformity on all denominations is remarkable.

### 1859

In the year 1859 a radical change appears, the cause of which it would be interesting to know. In this year the date is made radically smaller and the figures are of a conventional type. This is true of all denominations with the exception of the gold dollar which although the design is changed, still retains the same relative size as the 1858 gold dollar.

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15	1922	Grant*	45.00	48	1936	Wisconsin	1.75
16	1923	Monroe	1.75	49	1936	Cincinnati, Set P, D, S	16.50
17	1924	Huguenot	2.00	50	1936	Long Island	1.35
18	1925	Lexington	1.75	51	1936	York, Me.	1.75
19	1925	Stone Mt.	.85	52	1936	Bridgeport	2.00
20	1925	California	2.75	53	1936	Lynchburg	2.25
21	1925	Vancouver	8.00	54	1936	Elgin, Ill.	1.50
22	1926	Sesqui	1.50	55	1936	Albany, N. Y.	1.85
23	1926	Oregon	2.00	56	1936	San Francisco	2.00
24	1926	Oregon S	2.00	57	1936	Columbia, Set P, D, S	7.00
25	1927	Vermont	2.25	58	1936	Robinson	1.50
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